

John Coffee to Andrew Jackson, October 4, 1814, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL JOHN COFFEE TO JACKSON.

Fayetteville, Tenn. , October 4, 1814.

Dear Sir, Agreeably to your order calling for volunteer mounted gunmen, a Rendezvous was ordered at this place on the 28th Ult. owing to the short notice, and the distance the most of the men had to travel, the companies were not complete untill the 2nd Instant, since which time I have been detained by the contractors for want of traveling rations, they have now a supply, and in the course of this day, I shall take up the line of march cross the Ten. River at the upper end of the shoals, by Levy Colberts,¹ James Browns, Pichlands, and to Fort St. Stephens, where I shall expect to receive your orders.

¹ See vol. I., p. 323, note.

Enclosed is a Roster of officers and companies that are mustered into service under my command, besides two other companies, towit, Capt. McMahan and Capt. Steel (late Col Steel) the latter of whom is ordered to take charge of the hundred public horses ordered by you from Nashville. I was notified by the Q. M. Mr. Camp that the horses would be ready by the 6th and a request for men to carry them. Capt. Steels company has been detached for that service. Four companies from East Ten. has been reported to me and will come on through the creek nation.

I have been induced to receive the increased number of men over and above your first call, from several circumstances, towit, the Presidents proclamation, yours to Col Butler, wherein you mention the enemy on your coats, and believing, the Militia Infantry from

Library of Congress

Ten. will not reach you in time to meet them, and finally believing their services absolutely necessary to the protection of your District—from the foregoing reasons and many others, I hope you will approve the measure and receive my command as organised. Major Wm. Russell will follow after us with a few choice men. I shall use every possible exertion to reach you the soonest possible—of the time required you can judge as well as I can, I think I can march 30 miles a day, and will probably reach St. Stephens by the 19th or 20th Instant

I am Sir,